

REMARKS

Arrangement of Specification

In the Office action, the Examiner required correction of the specification. Specifically, some sections are allegedly missing in the specification of the above-referenced patent application. However, the language of Rule 77(b) is permissive, not mandatory. See 37 C.F.R. §1.77(b) (“The specification should include the following sections in order...”) (Emphasis added). In fact, paragraph 3 of the Office action refers to “guidelines...suggested for use”. Thus, although preferred, the alleged “missing sections” are apparently not required.

In particular, a summary of the invention section is not expressly required. For example, according to Rule 73 “Such summary should, when set forth, be commensurate with the invention as claimed...” 37 C.F.R. §1.73 (Emphasis added). According to the plain language of Rule 73, when a summary is set forth it should be commensurate with the invention as claimed. As such, it is respectfully submitted that a summary of the invention section is not required to be included in a specification. In view of the above, the specification for the above-referenced patent application is believed to be in order. Reconsideration of the requirement to correct is requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office action, each of the independent claims was rejected as being anticipated by Delaney. In view of the amendments and remarks herein, the claims are believed to be patentable over Delaney.

Independent claim 1

Independent claim 1 calls for an article comprising a medium storing instructions that enable a first processor-based system to set up an on-line meeting with a second processor-based system, receive image data from the second processor-based system, said image data to enable the display of an image transmitted from the second processor-based system, upon receipt of the image data, utilize received image data to determine whether the information for the image is stored in a local cache, and retrieve the image information from the local cache if the information was locally cached.

At a minimum, Delaney fails to disclose a first processor-based system that receives image data from a second processor-based system, where the image data could result in the display of the received image on the first processor-based system, and upon receipt of the image data, utilize received image data to determine whether the information for the image is stored in a local cache.

Delaney discloses a system 10 of clients 12 connected by a LAN 14. Column 5, lines 1-4. Generally, one or more of Delaney's peer clients may cache a data package to maximize the efficiency and speed for serving the data package to another client on the network. Column 1, lines 9-15. However, before a given client queries the other clients on the network, it first looks for the desired data package in its own storage. Column 5, lines 20-24 and column 7, lines 10-21. It is only after the given client knows that it does not have the desired data packet that it makes a request for a download from a peer on the network. Column 7, lines 10-21. Furthermore, if a peer on the network fails to respond to the request in a timely fashion, the client making the query/request proceeds to download the desired data package from an external server. Column 8, lines 6-13. See also column 8, line 37 through column 9, line 8, and Figures 2B and 2E. Thus, the requesting client knows that it does not have the data packet in storage before querying or receiving a data packet for download.

A client request for a data packet does not enable the display of an image on the other peers connected to the LAN. Thus, the act of making a request does not teach or suggest at least one limitation of claim 1.

Taken together, a client that is part of Delaney's system does not use image data as claimed to determine whether the image is already cached on the client. For at least this reason, amended claim 1 and claims dependent thereon are believed to be patentable over Delaney.

Independent claim 12

Independent claim 12 calls for a processor, and a data storage medium coupled to said processor and storing instructions enabling said processor to set up an on-line meeting with a remote processor-based system, receive data from the remote processor-based system related to information to be transmitted, determine whether the information is stored in a local cache, and retrieve the locally cached information to display an image on said processor-based system during the on-line meeting if the information was locally cached.

Delaney fails to disclose determining whether information is stored in a local cache and retrieve the locally cached information to display an image on the processor-based system during the on-line meeting if the information was locally cached. As previously explained, Delaney's distributed system of peer clients is designed to maximize efficiency and speed for serving data packages to other clients within a local network. Delaney does not specifically address on-conferencing.

In contrast, some embodiments of the present invention are directed toward multi-party communications over a computer network such as on-line conferencing. On-line conferences may include slides as part of a presentation. Conference participants may view slides at or nearly at the same time. Thus, images whether graphical, pictorial, text, or the like may be displayed during the on-line conference. Occasionally, during the course of an on-line meeting, a meeting presenter may flip-flop between different slides. Some embodiments of the present invention expedite viewing of a slide that has already been received by a meeting participant.

In Delaney, a given data packet may be stored on one or more clients connected by the LAN. However, there is no explicit teaching in the cited passages of Delaney that a slide is displayed on the various peer clients during an on-line conference. Furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion in Delaney that a given data packet is received from another client on the network if that data packet is already located on a client system. That is, as explained above, a particular client determines if it has a given data packet stored locally first, before querying other clients on the network. As such, Delaney fails to anticipate claim 12 as amended and claims dependent thereon.

Claims 22 and 24

Claim 22 calls for an article comprising a medium storing instructions that enable a first processor-based system to set up an on-line meeting with a second processor-based system, display an image during said on-line meeting, send data to the second processor-based system related to the displayed image and transmit the image data to the second processor-based system in response to a request from the second processor based-system.

Claim 24 calls for setting up an on-line meeting with a processor-based system, receiving data from the processor based-system related to an image to be displayed during the on-line

meeting, determining whether the image information is locally cached, and retrieving the cached image information if the image information was locally cached.

As explained above, Delaney fails to address on-line conferencing where images are displayed on the participating systems at substantially the same time. Furthermore, Delaney fails to disclose the situation where a processor-based system determines if it has image data that is to be displayed during the conference already cached. As such, Delaney fails to anticipate claims 22 and 24 and respective dependent claims.

Claim 28

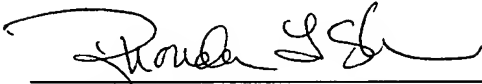
Claim 28 calls for an article comprising a medium storing instructions that enable a first processor-based system to set up an on-line meeting with a second processor-based system, receive data from the second processor-based system, compare the received data with locally cached data, and replace the locally cached data with received data if the received data differs from corresponding locally cached data.

In Delaney, a requesting client may query other clients on the LAN to determine if any of the neighboring clients has a particular data package. However, as previously explained, a requesting client looks for a data packet stored in memory before making a request. If the desired data package is not found in memory, the client queries peer client. Column 5, lines 19-28. Thus, the requesting client does not compare a data packet received from a peer with a locally cached data packet. In other words, a given client either has the data packet in memory or it receives the data packet from a peer (or externally) because it does not already have the data packet in memory. As such, Delaney neither teaches nor suggests comparing received data with locally cached data and replacing locally cached data with received data if the received data differs from the corresponding locally cached data. Accordingly, claim 28 and claims dependent thereon are believe to be patentable over Delaney.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0680US).

Respectfully submitted,

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